

Substance Abuse Prevention that Works



Protecting You/Protecting Me

*MADD's Alcohol Use
Prevention Program*





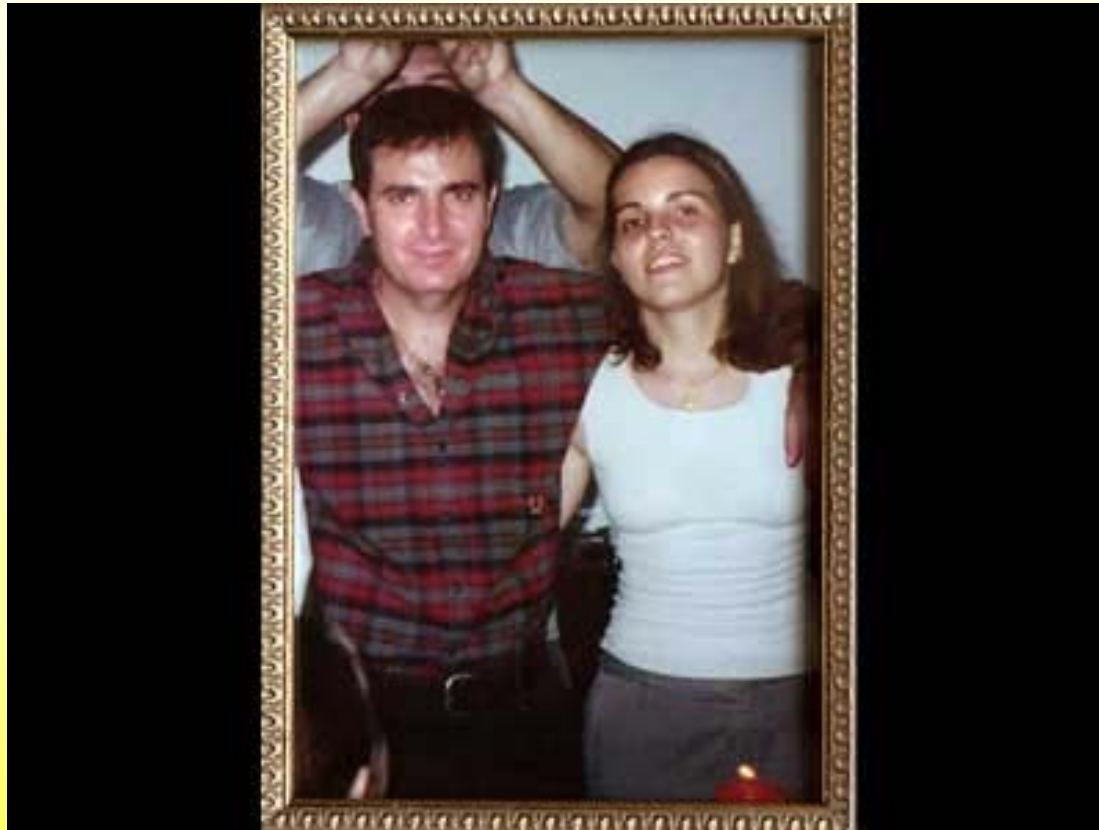
Good Friday, April 9, 2004

Chasing Hope

A true story of a girl whose life was changed forever because of a drunk driver.



Rosalia and Amadeo doted on Jacqui. Dressed all in white for her first Communion, 'she looked like a princess,' Rosalia remembers. Mother and daughter were and still are perfectionists, arranging themselves, their clothes and their surroundings just so.



Jacqui displays this photo of her with her father as a memento from her old life. Taken just before she left Venezuela for Austin in 1999, it's a reminder of what she lost, but also of what she still has: her memories and her father.



On Sept. 19, 1999, Jacqui badgered her friend Johanna into coming with her to a birthday party on Lake Travis. The party felt like one back home, with Jacqui, second from left, and her friends — from left, Luis Crespo; Julio Daal; Johanna Gil; Luis Cardozo; Laura Guerrero; and Johan Daal, front — dancing to salsa and merengue. A few hours later a car wreck would leave Laura and another party-goer, Natalia Chpytchak Bennett, dead and Jacqui, Johanna and Johan injured.



Reggie Stephey's Yukon sport-utility vehicle sustained front-end damage in the Sept. 19, 1999, crash.



Rescue crews had to use the Jaws of Life to rip apart the Oldsmobile driven by Natalia Chpytchak Bennett, who was killed. Jacqui was in the passenger seat. Laura Guerrero, who also died, was in the back with Johanna Gil and Johan Daal, who were injured.



Month after painstaking month, Jacqui works toward becoming more independent. Early on, one of the things Jacqui could do without help was to clean her face with a cleansing cloth. She's hoping to get back more of her sight. Before the operation this year that covered her left eye with a flap of skin, she saw only shadows with it; her right eye can make out more detail.



Project Goals

- Prevent the injury and death of Children and Youth due to:
 - ◇ Underage consumption of alcoholic beverages, and
 - ◇ Vehicle-related risks, especially as passengers in vehicles in which the driver is not alcohol-free.



Point 1



- Our brain is not fully developed at birth.
- It develops in stages on a schedule.
- It takes a minimum of 21 years for the human brain to encode, program, wire, connect, and develop its basic capacities.



NEW knowledge about the brain!



- Long known that brain is in constant change during *childhood*.
- Now known that the brain is in constant change during *adolescence*!



The Bad News

- Alcohol affects the developing brain differently than the adult brain
- Alcohol and drug use often start during adolescence
- Brain appears to be quite vulnerable during this time



Point 2



- Anything that interrupts or interferes with the development of our brain during its development can alter our development in ways we cannot predict.



Peaks of Development

Next 21-24 years = 60%

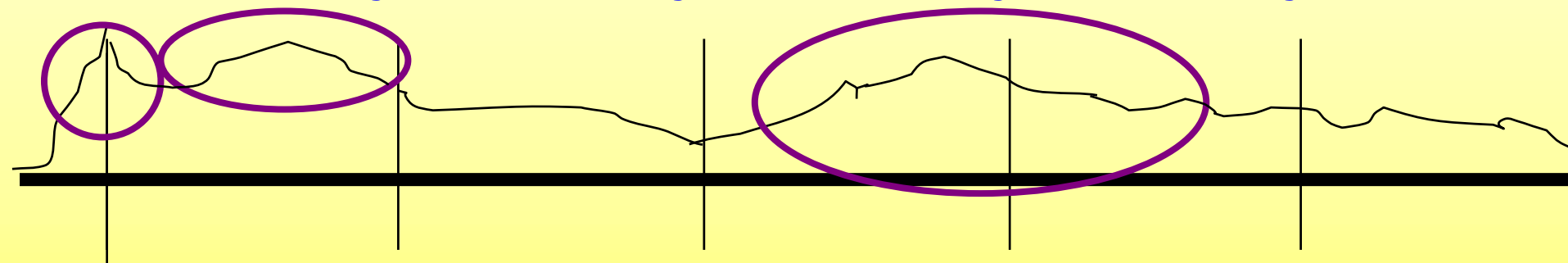
Birth

5 years

10 years

15 years

20 years



The brain is at risk throughout development,
but it is at **INCREASED RISK** in the womb,
first 5 years and during adolescence.



Point 3

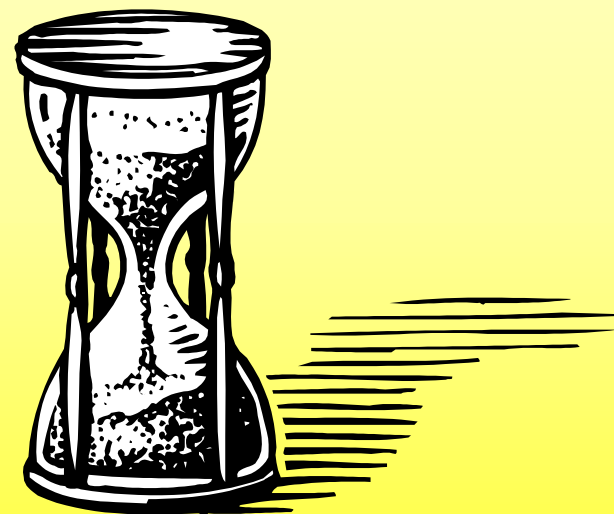


- Alcohol disrupts development.
the brain's basic encoding...programming...wiring process.
- Alcohol impairs learning.
- Alcohol impairs memory.



WE MUST START BEFORE ADOLESCENCE!

Research shows that in order to effect change in behavior we must begin at least 5 years before we expect risky behavior to begin.





Overview

- Targets students in grades 1–5
- Eight lessons in each grade
- Uses the latest brain research
- Emphasizes risks/dangers of underage alcohol use
- Teaches vehicle safety and other skills



Implementation

- Implementation
 - ◇ School Staff
 - ◇ Community Prevention Specialist
 - ◇ High School Students who are enrolled in a class for credit

Program Information

- ♦ Rigorously Tested and Evaluated over five years
- ♦ Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration Model Program
- ♦ OJJDP Model Program
- ♦ Classroom- based
- ♦ Training required

Effects of PY/PM

Impacts the high school peer
leaders who teach it

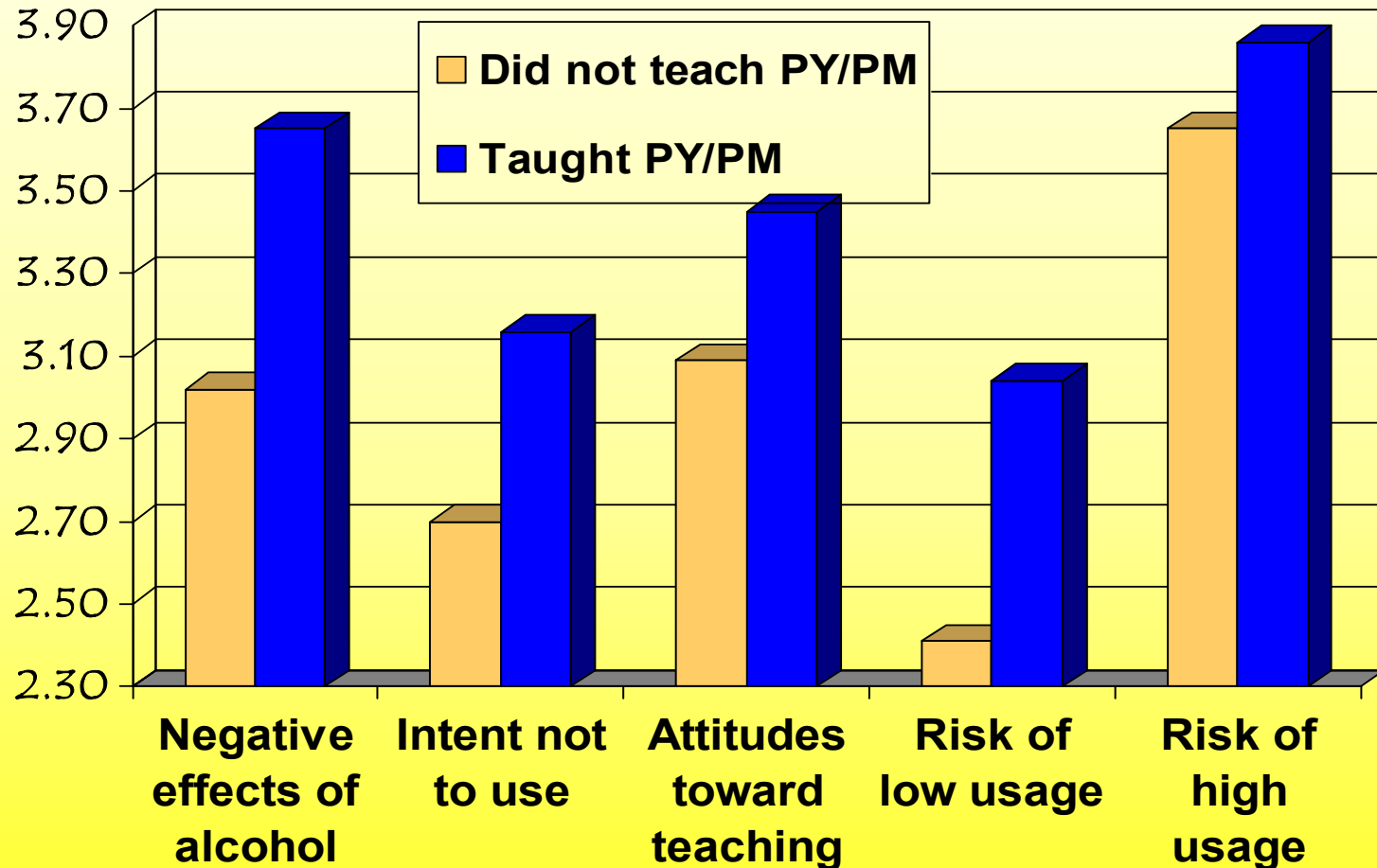
AND

The elementary students who
receive it.

PY/PM Students Learned:

- It is not okay for teenagers to drink, even if they don't drive.
- Drinking alcohol even in small amounts is harmful for teenagers.
- Drinking alcohol is more dangerous for people under 21 than for older people.
- If I have to ride with a driver who has been drinking, I should sit in the back seat and not talk to the driver.
- I can stop and think before making decisions.
- I know how to handle a stressful situation.

Attitudes/Knowledge Gained by High School Peer Helpers



Note: Average post-test scores. Scores ranged from 1 to 4 with 4 being the desired response

Next Steps

- ♦ PAL class or it equivalent in all high schools in El Paso
- ♦ High School classes trained to deliver PY/PM in selected elementary schools
- ♦ Counselors and Nurses trained to deliver PY/PM in all elementary schools where high school students are not delivering PY/PM in El Paso